Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (previously presented): A method for pre-fetching data from a memory, comprising the steps of:

initializing a counter value;

pre-fetching a predetermined data from the memory and subtracting a first value from the counter value each time pre-fetching is activated;

adding a second value to the counter value when a cache hit occurs;

comparing the counter value with a first threshold value; and

when the counter value is smaller than the first threshold value, stopping pre-fetching data from the memory.

2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein when the pre-fetching is stopped, the counter value is blocked from being decreased by the first value.

3 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein when the pre-fetching is stopped and the cache hit occurs, the second value is added to the counter value.

4 (original): The method of claim 3, wherein when the pre-fetching is stopped and the counter value is larger than a second threshold value, pre-fetching data from the memory is restarted.

5 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the second threshold value is larger than the first threshold value.

6 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the second value is an integer multiple of the

first value.

7 (previously presented): A method for pre-fetching data from a memory, comprising the steps of:

5   initializing a counter value;

pre-fetching a predetermined data from the memory and adding a first value to the counter value each time pre-fetching is activated;

subtracting a second value from the counter value when a cache hit occurs;

comparing the counter value with a first threshold value; and

10   when the counter value is larger than the first threshold value, stopping pre-fetching data from the memory.

8 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein when the pre-fetching is stopped, the counter value is blocked from being increased by the first value.

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9 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein when the pre-fetching is stopped and the cache hit occurs, the counter value is decreased by the second value.

10 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein when the pre-fetching is stopped and the

20   counter value is smaller than a second threshold value, pre-fetching data from the memory is restarted.

11 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the second threshold value is smaller than the first threshold value.

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12 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the second value is an integer multiple of the first value.

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13-42 (cancelled).